

January 28th, 2010 in London will be held conference devoted to current problems of Afghanistan and support that country by NATO member states. The new soldiers soon are going to be entangled in the old fight, but the idea is to achieve qualitative breakthrough. The target of new initiative should not be just to defeat the enemy. In the short run it is always attainable. What has to be done is to make something permanently useful to the country and to win the war in our own media. This is a tall order. For today it must be shown to the world that – thanks to new target-oriented politics – after the departure of NATO troops, there will remain not only battlefields but the blooming gardens. The conference should also involve countries that do not send their troops, to finance non-military tasks. Suggestion of solving these problems is presented below. Methods described here can be applied also in other incubators of terrorism, such as Yemen or Somalia, and, where natural disaster has led to the total collapse of the state but people need to live (Haiti).

# The Gardener of Afghanistan

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## **We are not zero-based**

The U.S. and other democratic countries (including Poland) took responsibility for Afghanistan, and they can not withdraw without achieving planned objectives. Even if the operation is going to last for many years. It is therefore necessary to redefine these goals, clarify them, express and seek effective means. Also such which has never been practiced. And finally to build a new image of NATO as an organization friendly to the world.

## **Target defining**

The aim of the international military intervention in Afghanistan is not to defeat the Taliban, but to bring this country to the standards of twenty-first century civilization with respect for the local culture and religion. In addition: to eliminate the threat of recreation of structures for international terrorism and drug production. Foreign troops should leave Afghanistan if it is guaranteed that people living in this country will not be exposed to death and suffering and if they will not cause a danger to themselves and others.

## **Choosing methods**

Strategies used in other parts of the world – fail in Afghanistan. It is therefore necessary to look for new methods. Solution proposed here comes from the belief that NATO does not dispose sufficient power to achieve all aims at the same time and throughout whole country and make them last for good. A more effective method may be, modeled on the gardeners proceeding. On strong, feral branches he grafts noble apple shoot. After many years of learning on mistakes, gardener gradually comes to excellent results. He do not have sufficient money, energy and time to insert it in a whole orchard. And even if it is possible – the effects of the whole project would be uncertain and unstable.

The proposed strategy differs from the old methods of main idea: **instead of on 100% of the territory achieve 1% of goal – we aspire to achieve 100% of goal onto 1% of the territory**. Then we can embrace the whole country gradually with the new rules, and if the result proves to be satisfactory – we gain a method of resolving similar problems in other parts of the world.

European democracy begun with Attic *Dems* (demoi). Greeks had built their republics with small bricks. They did not at once elect the President of the State. Today, Afghans need not repeat all the road to democracy, but we should keep this way in mind.

## **PLAN FOR AFGHANISTAN**

- 1.** Carefully prepare people required to implement this Plan.
- 2.** Divide the occupied territory into small, tight administrative units (*Dems*).
- 3.** Select one *Dem* and for 3 months absolutely insulate it from the rest of the country. Organize (voluntary!) return of refugees and the displacement (not necessarily voluntary) of those who arrived there with violation of the law.
- 4.** With a huge excess of power, which has ruled out any resistance, demilitarize the zone (taking – house after house – weapons, explosives and anything that is used to produce drugs, internment resistant people, etc.).
- 5.** Set up police (initially, and perhaps permanently – no firearms), and border guards. Give the chance for interned to serve with the task of ruthless cleansing the country from the drug use and protect the border against infiltration, smuggling, etc.
- 6.** Create the essential offices and institutions. Managers of these institutions should be pre-prepared, trained and brought to the task of creating administration and preparation their successors from among the local population. By at least one year following these, officials should exercise supervision over the new leaders in an advisory capacity and should have the right to withhold any decision until consideration of the review body. The scope of permissible interference with each year would be lower until the end of direct supervision.
- 7.** Provide *Dem* with disproportionately large economic aid, dig wells, set up water supply and sewage(!) systems. Remove the traces of war and ensure the protection of the borders (if necessary – the duty protection). Strongly support local entrepreneurship and for some time protect it from external competition. Build modern schools of all needed types, make secondary education compulsory – also for girls. Create redundant systems of education, health, social work, employment and administration (redundant – because it would be soon extended to other territories).
- 8.** At all costs – give employment to everyone able to work. We are talking about several tens of thousands of people, which is a relatively small cost. Some may even dig trenches, and others bury them. It is only to ensure to each other a source of income, particularly salary. Of course – the work should be mandatory, possibly sensible and related to the creation of modern civil and military infrastructure. But most important would be to prepare personnel to restore and develop the rest of the country. And more important than the most important – to no one remain without a legal means of income.
- 9.** Firmly counteract corruption – mostly by removing its causes even at the huge, expense. That means preventing of friendly-corruption economy of deficiency and the development and application of hard objective criteria for appointment for posts, procurement etc. Distribution of food, of any goods and privileges have to be banned with, of course, reasonable exceptions in the event of natural disasters or humanitarian operations.
- 10.** Near the border of the first *Dem*, quickly create second, third and tenth. So that together they creates a meaningful cultural and geographic region.
- 11.** Immediately hold elections (indirect) to local authorities in the region and give local governments the responsibility for as many as possible issues (strongly ensure that women participate in elections, but do not touch the sphere of their morality).
- 12.** The conditions (but not necessarily the time) the exit of foreign troops with the option to continue the operation if its achievements in the future will be threatened.

## **The qualitative breakthrough instead of escalation**

Actions described in the chapter 'Plan for Afghanistan' need to be undertaken in several distant from each other, carefully selected, small areas. They would be competing and exchanging experiences nuclei of crystallization process that would establish regional and national elections, transfer of power, restoration of the army and the development of rules for withdrawing foreign troops, and finally taking over the various functions by the Afghans.

Serious problem, even in a small area, can be carry out general election in a community that doesn't know democracy. And the elections must take place very quickly, to break clan dependencies and to neutralize the pressure of various warlords and fundamentalists. Copying electoral mechanisms used in mature democracies, has been reviewed negatively in Afghan civilization. Should therefore test the new democratic process, such as for example mandatory multistage elections to local governments of different levels. Every ten of adult residents living in the vicinity should select from among themselves a representative (decurion). Ten of the decurions elect centurion, etc.

The first elections should be indirect, to avoid the demagogy in political campaign on a large scale. Secrecy of voting – forced without exception within each point. Counting votes – firmly controlled and recorded. In this way the Councils arise, what would select local executives, and finally: the national authorities. Women who are culturally disadvantaged – should vote separately and only on women. This way we have guarantee that at every level women would be represented in about 50%. It would be unique opportunity, to gradually lead to the empowerment of women in existing gender segregation.

The first constitution (the same for each *Dem*) should be simple and understandable, of course – imposed. There is no chance that the local leaders, who do not know constitutional basis, would come up with something sensible (in particular – they can not invent a constitutional right of women to higher education). Later, the sovereign authority would be allowed to any complicate and update the law. The only restrain would be impossibility of centralizing power without the consent of the international control bodies. In particular – enforcement authority should be selected onto only one term of office without the possibility of re-election. The idea is that the first elections could be again used for the seizure of power by one group that want to rule for life. After the expiry of term policies may be a candidate for the position of higher or lower. Not the same thing. Annual rotation in all chambers would help to disseminate knowledge of the democratic process, and also reduce the tendency to coup and civil war. The path of social advancement would be permanently open for everybody.

And we cannot count on help from tribal elders. We need to respect these people and – even with large costs and efforts – attract them for the developments. But what partly illiterates may bring to systemic solutions, invented by best brains that have worked on that subject over millennia, and yet have not developed any final thought? Afghan sages can give advice and may share knowledge of local conditions. Thanks to them, you can avoid thick mistakes. But they would not work out the system. It is not possible.

## **The day after**

After a spectacular and well promoted success of the first region can be expected criticism, but also supplications from other parts of the country, to introduce similar orders. It should be clear that those who ask for it later, do not benefit fully on the program. You can not immediately give job to all unemployed on big scale. Regional diversity can also lead to the creation of some form of federalism, what should not be ruled out.

It should also immediately start invest. Primarily into upbringing (children cannot wander the streets). In second place – in education. And only in the third – in health. Urgent create medical academy for women to develop nursing and medical staff for the entire country. This university should be located at least initially in tents, but on the spot, to spread health promotion in the near area and not to create temptations of emigration. All students should receive NATO grants, individual controlled, covering the full cost of studying. The introduction with basic sanitation and medical standards will lead immediately to a radical reduction in mortality of infants and children. After a few years it will cause difficult but predictable demographic problems.

Economic investment should be accompanied to these solidarity investments. Relation between income and consumption of the population should be regulated that it does not generate debt, hindering development in the future. Market principles should be respected, with the amendment on the nature of the market and excluding repayments of loans other than business income, in which the investment. It would be real if we temporarily agree for low wages for work – an expression of solidarity feedback from recipients to investors. Next – to regulate the ownership of land, to promote the cultivation leading to food self-sufficiency of the region even at very low levels. Enter the responsibility for the cultivation of prohibited plants. Adapt irrigation systems to new crops and ensure industrial support for agriculture.

Adoption the method of gardening to implant peace and prosperity in Afghanistan requires consideration of many specific solutions. It should also assess the costs. Today I can only express my belief that these costs, though high, are still significantly lower than the costs of war. Important: some of these costs may incur banks, companies and countries that do not participate in military operations. I also believe that the results achieved in this way will be stable and good. But these beliefs must be confirmed by calculations and experiences. Scrutiny of the proposed method will contribute to develop innovative approaches to other problems (e.g. in Yemen or Somalia). It really should help the Afghan people. This method allow countries involved in the aid mission to fulfill the operation with a sense of valuable success. It is possible now to develop a strategy in which NATO would not be the gendarme of the world, but the gardener.

\* Andrew **Jarczewski**, the Polish author of hearing about the constitution, titled “Europoliteja”. Ibid extensive justification for the views presented here. Other publications – at: [ajarcz.republika.pl](http://ajarcz.republika.pl). Biography – in the Internet Encyclopedia of “Solidarity”. His newest book: “Provokado” (about the start of World War II).